

(Continued from front cover)

much as 10°F below normal) prevailed for the second consecutive week in **California** in the **Northwest**. Showers accompanied the cool conditions in the **Interior Northwest**, further easing the threat of wildfires and aiding containment efforts. Meanwhile, heavy rain (2 inches or more) fell in the **southern Atlantic and eastern Gulf Coast regions**, aiding pastures and easing long-term drought, but slowing fieldwork and adversely affecting cotton in the open-boll stage of development. As much as 3 to 11 inches of rain drenched **southern Georgia** and **northern Florida**. In the **Corn Belt**, warm, mostly dry weather promoted summer crop maturation. Significant **Midwestern** rainfall was confined to portions of **Indiana**.

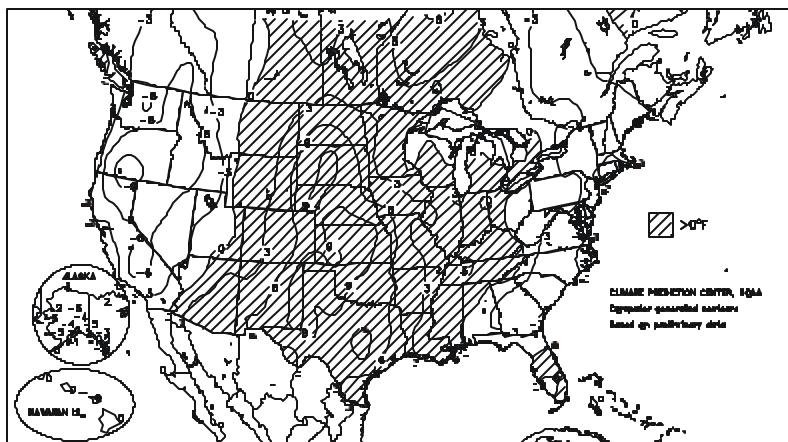
Record heat in the **Central and Southwestern States** produced more than 150 daily-record highs and at least a dozen all-time records (all in **Texas**), while cool weather in the **Northeast** and **Northwest** resulted in about three dozen daily-record lows. On September 4, all-time records included 112°F in **College Station** and 109°F in **Houston**. **Lufkin, TX** tied their all-time high of 110°F, set on August 19, 1909. A day later, the parade of all-time records included 115°F at **Del Rio's Laughlin Air Force Base**, 112°F in **Austin**, 111°F in **San Antonio**, and 109°F in **Corpus Christi**. **Galveston's** high of 104°F eclipsed their previous record, set on July 16, 1932, by 3°F. In a final flurry of records on September 6, monthly record-tying warmth was noted as far north as **Garden City, KS** (105°F).

Meanwhile in **Nevada**, daily-record lows on Wednesday included 26°F in **Elko** and 30°F in **Ely**. On the same day in **Vermont**, **Montpelier** (32 and 34°F) logged their second consecutive daily record. After midweek, cooler air spread westward into the **South-Central States**, while hot weather shifted into the **Southwest**. **Tucson, AZ** registered 105°F on Thursday, a daily-record high. A day later in **Texas**, **Dallas-Ft. Worth's** maximum of 87°F represented their first high below 90°F since June 30, which was also their last day with measurable rainfall. In **Oklahoma City, OK**, a 17-day stretch (August 19 - September 4) with highs at or above 100°F, their longest such streak since July 1966, ended with a high of 97°F on Tuesday.

However, **Oklahoma City's** record-breaking streak without a drop of rain continued through week's end, reaching 42 days (July 30 - September 9). (The longest stretch without measurable rainfall in **Oklahoma City** remains 68 days, set in October-December 1910.) **Dallas-Ft. Worth's** record-setting streak without measurable rain reached 71 days through September 9, while elsewhere in **Texas**, **Abilene's** stretched to 70 days—just shy of their June-August 1970 record of 72 days. Meanwhile in

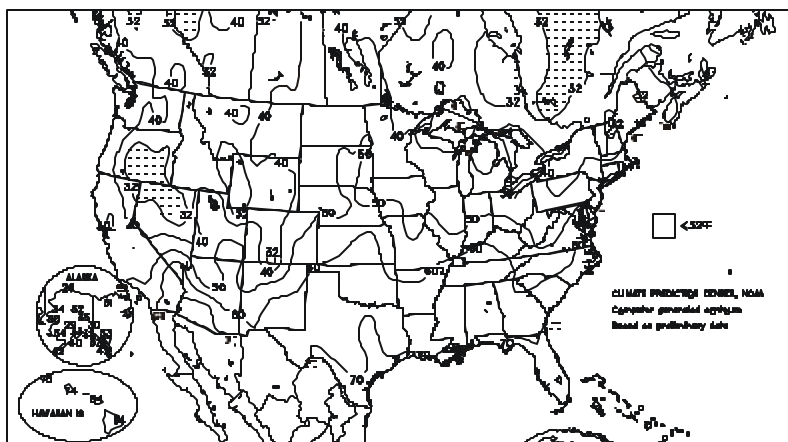
Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

SEP 3 - 9, 2000



Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

SEP 3 - 9, 2000



**eastern Washington**, **Spokane** netted 0.70 inch of rain from September 2-10, following their longest spell (57 days) without measurable precipitation since 1988. After only a trace of rain dampened **Burns, OR** during August, 1.16 inches fell from September 1-10.

**Macon, GA** collected 6.45 inches during the first 9 days of September, including at least 1 inch on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup>. In **Florida**, **Jacksonville's** weekly total reached 7.64 inches—aided by a 4.08-inch sum on September 6—accounting for 23 percent of their year-to-date rainfall. Farther west, 8.10 inches soaked **Pensacola, FL** from September 1-9, nearly 29 percent of their year-to-date total, cutting their January 1 - September 9 rainfall deficit by more than 6 inches to 18.55 inches. Late in the week, a short-lived tropical depression contributed to heavy rainfall along the **central Gulf Coast**. Nevertheless, **New Orleans, LA** reported a year-to-date precipitation deficit of 24.06 inches through September 9, despite 4.06 inches rain in September.

Cool weather (weekly temperatures as much as 5°F below normal) returned to **Alaska**, accompanied by widespread precipitation that was locally heavy in southwestern and southeastern parts of the State. Meanwhile in **Hawaii**, mostly dry weather returned to drought-affected leeward areas, following recent beneficial showers.